

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 09/586,205 | KONDO ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Duy M Dang | 2621 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to 10/18/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-39.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 02 June 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's amendment filed 10/18/04 has been entered and made of record.

2. Applicant's arguments, see last four lines of page 2 to page 3 line 11, filed 10/18/04, with respect to claims 1, 3-4, 7-10, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34 and 37-38 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1, 3-4, 7-10, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34 and 37-38 has been withdrawn.

3. Claims 1-39 are allowed.

4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claims 1, 22, 24, 26, 28, 30, 32, 34, and 37-38, the closest cited prior art (Rao) fails to teach or suggest the "transmission signal generating portion for adding a synchronous signal that includes at least either a horizontal synchronous signal, a vertical synchronous signal, or a sequential synchronous signal." Dependent claims 3-4, 7-10, 28 are also allowed for the same reasons as above.

Regarding claim 2, the cited prior art (Rao) fails to teach or suggest the features of "wherein said encoding portion encodes each pixel value of the original picture signal a plurality of times, and wherein said uniformly random number generating portion generates a different uniformly random number for encoding each pixel value of the original picture signal a plurality of times". Claims 5-6 are also allowed as being dependent upon the allowed base claim 2.

Regarding claim 11, the cited prior art (Rao) fails to teach or suggest the features of "a cumulating portion for cumulating the encoded values of the encoded picture signal for each pixel of the original picture, a decoding portion for decoding the encoded values cumulated by said cumulating portion for each pixel value of the original picture signal based on the number of

times counted by a counting portion, and a sampling portion for sampling the encoded values of the encoded picture signal". Claims 18-21 depend from claim 11 and are also allowed for the same reasons as above.

Regarding claim 12, the cited prior art fails to teach or suggest the features "a cumulating portion for cumulating the encoded values of the encoded picture signal for each pixel of the original picture, a decoding portion for decoding the encoded values cumulated by said cumulating portion for each pixel value of the original picture signal based on the number of times counted by a counting portion, a sampling portion for sampling the encoded values of the encoded picture signal, wherein said cumulating portion cumulates the encoded values sampled by said sampling portion". Claim 13 is allowed as being dependent upon the allowed base claim.

Regarding claim 14, the cited prior art fails to teach or suggest the features of "a controlling portion for causing said cumulating portion to stop cumulating the encoded values". Claims 15-17 are also allowed as being dependent upon the allowed base claim.

Regarding claims 23 and 25, the cited prior art (Rao) fails to teach or suggest the features of "counting the number of times cumulated at the cumulated step".

Regarding claim 27, it is noted that claim 27 recites the features called for in claim 2. Thus, claim 27 is also allowed for the same reasons as set forth in claim 2 above.

Regarding claims 29, 31, 33, 35-36, and 39, the cited prior art (Rao) fails to teach or suggest the features of "a counting portion for counting the number of times cumulated".

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

Art Unit: 2621

fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

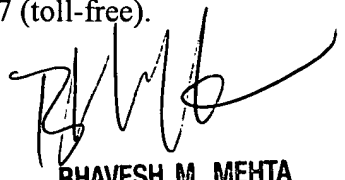
5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Duy M Dang whose telephone number is 571-272-7389. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from 6:30AM to 3:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bhavesh Mehta can be reached on 571-272-7453. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



dmd
4/2005



BHAVESH M. MEHTA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600